

MINUTES
Town of North
May 14, 2007
North Town Hall

Mayor Jeffcoat called the regular meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m. and declared a quorum. Present were Council members Drew, Binyard, Lane, and Gleaton. Also in attendance were Mark Fallaw, Chief of Police, and Carrie Windham, Town Clerk.

Mayor Jeffcoat welcomed visitors.

Councilman Drew made a motion to approve the Minutes from the April 9, 2007 meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Lane, and upon vote Minutes were approved.

Water/Sewer Report:

Mr. Jeffcoat presented the water sewer report for April 2007, (copy attached). Mr. Jeffcoat noted that a representative from SCRWA and DHEC were in our office and said that our water system is the best it has been in years, and that our system is superior to other small towns. Mr. Jeffcoat commends Dale Weatherford for a job well done. Mr. Jeffcoat also noted that we will be using penny sales tax funds to make fire hydrant repairs which is much more cost efficient than replacement.

Police Report:

Chief Fallaw reviewed the North Police report (copy attached).

StreetScape Report:

Mayor Jeffcoat reported that Strata has been awarded the contract for this project. The actual construction will still be out for bid.

Old Business:

Mayor Jeffcoat reviewed the April financial statement (copy attached)

New Business:

- Jeffcoat gave first reading to the 2007-2008 budget, and gave opportunity for any questions to be voiced. Councilwoman Lane made a motion to accept the first reading of the 2008-2008 budget, Councilman Gleaton seconded the motion and upon vote it was carried.
- Jeffcoat reported the Community of Character Trait for May is Caring.
- Jeffcoat informed council that the Town Clerk has been in contact with TDS about a pay-station in North and TDS has agreed to put a Western Union pay-station in our town which will accept TDS Telephone bills. Western Union has given our Town Hall the first option to operate the pay-station. Councilwoman Lane made a motion to provide the service for the people of our Town, for the Town of North to apply to be the Western Union pay-station. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Binyard and upon vote carried.
- Jeffcoat informed council that he has met with Harold Young who has asked that the Town Council approve the County's Ordinance on Abandoned Houses. This ordinance will give a property owner 14 days to remedy the problem, and if it is not remedied the County will do necessary clean up and add the cost to the property owner's tax bill. If the property owner does not pay then the ownership of the property will be forfeited. Councilwoman Lane made a motion to accept the first reading of the Ordinance on Abandoned Houses, seconded by Councilwoman Binyard and upon vote so carried.
- Jeffcoat discussed with Council an ordinance changing the term of Council from 2 years to 4 years, staggering terms. Councilwoman Lane made a motion to accept this as first reading of this ordinance, Councilwoman Binyard seconded the motion and it was carried upon vote.
- Jeffcoat also discussed with Council the rising costs to operate our water system and proposed an increase in water and sewer rates. Councilman Drew made a motion to increase water and sewer rates 5% effective July 1, 2007. This motion was seconded by Councilman Gleaton and upon vote carried.

Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Jeffcoat advised Council on the Request for Annexation made by Mrs. Jamison that had been submitted to the Town. There are specific guidelines that have to be followed and for whatever reason there was a miscommunication with Mrs. Jamison about the date requirements. Mayor Jeffcoat advised Mrs. Jamison that the signatures have to be dated, and all have to be obtained within six months of the first signature. She will work on this and resubmit the Request for Annexation.
- Mayor Jeffcoat reported that he attended the Democratic Presidential Debate at SC State University.
- Mayor Jeffcoat advised Council that we are getting bids on another roof, this time at the Sewer Plant. The flat roofs on our buildings are just not holding up and having to be replaced with pitched roofs. We will get a quote on the cost to repair this building.
- Councilwoman Lane added that she attended the National Day of Prayer on May 3rd and that it had a good turnout and was a great experience.

Public Comments:

There was a comment on StreetScape from a citizen specifically opposing the closing-in of the town parking lot along Main Street. Council advised that we will get drawings from several different groups and a public hearing will be held before any design is chosen.

Executive Session:

Reverend Wright closed the regular meeting in prayer and Councilwoman Lane made a Motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilwoman Binyard. The regular meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m. to Executive Session for discussion personnel issues.

The regular meeting of Council was reconvened at 8:17 p.m. Councilman Drew made a motion to approve the pay raises as discussed in Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Binyard and upon a vote of 4 to 1, approved. Councilwoman Lane dissented.

There being no further business, Councilwoman Lane made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Binyard. Mayor Jeffcoat adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 11, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Carrie Windham

APPROVED: MAY 14, 2007 MINUTES

Mayor Earl Jeffocat: _____

Council Members:

Paul Drew: _____

Rose Binyard: _____

Harriett Lane: _____

Aubrey Gleaton: _____